

E-LABorations

Montana DPHHS Environmental Laboratory Updates

July 2010

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If you have events or stories to include in future issues please submit them by email to: Joel Felix
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Stage_2 Disinfection Byproduct Rule-Adoption

Stage_2 Disinfection Byproduct testing known as (IDSE) or Initial Distribution System Evaluation has been completed and results have been recorded in the EPA database. Data collected from these tests was used to determine future test sites for Stage_2 which will start in October of 2012 for the large systems and October of 2013 for the remainder.

Public Water Systems that are either Community or Non-Transient Non-Community and who disinfect with chlorine were evaluated this past year. The evaluation was designed to see if the previously chosen Stage_1 sample sites would be sufficient or if new sites would have to be considered before the new Stage_2 DBP Rule takes effect.

The test sites, chosen for each individual system, are those that will consistently show the highest DBP readings for that system. These sites may be the same site for the highest TTHMs (Trihalomethanes) and HAA5s (Haloacetic Acids) or may be different.

Montana Surface Water and Ground Water systems that have shown consistent low readings for both the TTHMs and HAA5s were given a waiver to the extra year of testing. As a result, the final number of Montana Public Drinking Water Systems required to conduct the IDSE testing was 38.

Extra sampling leads to extra work and potential confusion for the labs to deal with. All the Montana labs, that reviewed the samples during this past year, did a remarkable job of conducting the respective tests and reporting sample results to DEQ.

The DEQ personnel want to thank those participating labs for their hard work and for a job well done.

Regards,



John Jose
MT DEQ PWS
D/DBP Rule Mgr.

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EPA Proposes Updating Drinking Water Rule

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to revise a national primary drinking water regulation to achieve greater public health protection against waterborne pathogens in the distribution systems of public water systems.

EPA is proposing to revise the 1989 Total Coli form Rule to incorporate improvements recommended by a federal advisory committee that included representatives from a broad range of stakeholder groups, including public health and public interest groups, environmental groups, state drinking water agencies and drinking water utilities. EPA used a transparent, collaborative process with stakeholders to help make this regulation more effective.

EPA is seeking public comment on this proposed rule for 60 days following publication in the Federal Register.

More information about the proposed rule: <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/disinfection/tcr/index.html>

For more information, contact:

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Please visit our website

The DPHHS Laboratory has updated our website!

New postings include:

- ◆ New water test request forms
- ◆ The 2010-2011 clinical Laboratory Services Manual
- ◆ The fee list effective on July 1, 2010
- ◆ A story about our recent open house along with a great new staff photo!

Here is a link to the website: <http://lab.hhs.mt.gov>

Please [contact us](#) if you have suggestions for items you'd like to see on our website.

I bought some instant water one time but I didn't know what to add to it.

STEVEN WRIGHT